

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 08399 01 OF 02 010708Z

ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 L-03 SP-02 PM-05

ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

ERDA-07 /078 W

-----016471 010717Z /11

R 010620Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1886

INFO AMCONSUL PERTH

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 CANBERRA 8399

DEPARTMENT PASS NASA HEADQUARTERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, AS, US

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY NASA LASER TRACKING FACILITY

REF: (A) STATE 254974, (B) CANBERRA 07199 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY DELIVERED DIPLOMATIC NOTE NO. 138 ON OCTOBER 26, 1977 AS SET FORTH IN PARA 6 OF REFTEL A.

2. ON NOVEMBER 23 EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER FROM MARTIN BRADY, DEFENSE PROJECTS SECTION, DFA.

3. QUOTE FURTHER TO OUR CONVERSATION REGARDING THE NASA MOBILE LASER TRACKING FACILITY, I ENCLOSE A COPY OF OUR INITIAL REDRAFT OF THE AGREEMENT AMENDING THE NASA AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE ESTABLISHING OF THE FACILITY.

QUOTE THIS DRAFT IS ALONG THE LINES OF AEROBEE ROCKET AGREEMENT AND EARLIER AGREEMENTS AMENDING THE 1960 NASA UMBRELLA AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE ESTABLISHING OF ADDITIONAL NASA FACILITIES. IN THIS DRAFT WE HAVE BEEN PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED TO AVOID INCLUSION OF OPERATIONAL DETAILS WHICH
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 08399 01 OF 02 010708Z

SHOULD, IN OUR VIEW, BE THE SUBJECT OF COOPERATING AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN NASA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE. A MAJOR BENEFIT WE WOULD SEE IN THIS APPROACH IS THAT IT ALLOWS THE OPERATIONAL DETAILS TO BE MODIFIED WITHOUT THE NEED FOR FURTHER AMENDMENT OF THE NASA AGREEMENT.

QUOTE AS I MENTIONED TO YOU THIS DRAFT HAS NOT YET BEEN

CONSIDERED BY RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AUTHORITIES. I WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU AGAIN WHEN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND WE ARE IN A POSITION TO PUT TO YOU A DRAFT WHICH HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH THESE DEPARTMENTS AND AUTHORITIES. END QUOTE

4. DRAFT GOA NOTE PROPOSED BY BRADY IS AS FOLLOWS
(PROPOSED U.S. NOTE CONTAINED WITHIN DFA NOTE):

QUOTE COMPLIMENTARY OPENING...NOTE NO....WHICH READS:

INNER QUOTE THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA ON MARCH 25, 1970 CONCERNING A CONTINUED PROGRAM OF COOPERATION TO FACILITATE SPACE FLIGHT OPERATIONS CONTRIBUTING TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF MUTUAL SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE OF MAN'S SPATIAL ENVIRONMENT AND ITS EFFECTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION INHENERNT IN THAT AGREEMENT, AND WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ARTICLE 2(3), FURTHER DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN HELD BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH COUNTRIES WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING A NASA TEMPORARY MOBILE SATELLITE LASER TRACKING FACILITY.

INNER QUOTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THOSE DISCUSSIONS, IT IS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CANBER 08399 01 OF 02 010708Z

PROPOSED THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE IN A PROGRAM INVOLVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NASA TEMPORARY MOBILE SATELLITE LASER TRACKING FACILITY.

INNER QUOTE IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE CHARACTER AND PURPOSE OF THE LASER TRACKING FACILITY AND THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ITS OPERATION, INCLUDING ALLOCATION OF TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY, FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS, PROVISION OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES, RECORDING AND SHARING OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PROGRAM BE THE SUBJECT OF ARRANGEMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT OF MARCH 25, 1970, TO BE CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, THE COOPERATING AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, THE COOPERATING AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA. IT IS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 3 THROUGH 12 OF THE AGREEMENT OF MARCH 25, 1970 BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS SHALL APPLY MUTATIS MUTANDIS WITH RESPECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE LASER TRACKING STATION.

INNER QUOTE ACCORDINGLY, AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH

2(A) OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA EFFECTED BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES MARCH 25, 1970, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THAT THE LIST OF FACILITIES SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 2(1) OF THAT AGREEMENT BE AMENDED BY THE INCLUSION OF THE TEMPORARY TRACKING FACILITY DESCRIBED ABOVE. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ALSO PROPOSES THAT THE AGREEMENT BE CORRECTED TO REFLECT THE CHANGE IN NAME OF THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TO DELETE FROM PARAGRAPH 2 THE LIST OF THOSE FACILITIES WHICH ARE NO LONGER OPERATIONAL, NAMELY 2(A), (C), (F), AND (G).

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 08399 02 OF 02 010712Z
ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 L-03 SP-02 PM-05
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05
ERDA-07 /078 W

-----016509 010717Z /11

R 010620Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1887
INFO AMCONSUL PERTH

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 CANBERRA 8399

DEPARTMENT PASS NASA HEADQUARTERS

INNER QUOTE THE EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT IF THE FOREGOING PROPOSALS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA, THIS NOTE AND THE REPLY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THAT EFFECT, SHALL TOGETHER CONSTITUTE AND EVIDENCE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHALL ENTER INTO FORCE ON THE DATE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY, AND SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR THREE YEARS.

INNER QUOTE THE EMBASSY AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END INNER QUOTE

QUOTE THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS THE HONOUR TO CONFIRM THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA CONCURS IN THE PROPOSALS OUTLINED IN THE EMBASSY'S NOTE AND AGREES THAT THE EMBASSY'S NOTE AND THE PRESENT REPLY SHALL TOGETHER CONSTITUTE AND EVIDENCE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT

OF AUSTRALIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA ON THE MATTER WHICH SHALL ENTER INTO FORCE ON THE
DATE OF THIS REPLY. END QUOTE

5. COMMENT: BRADY TOLD EMBOFF THAT IT MIGHT BE WELL INTO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 08399 02 OF 02 010712Z

DECEMBER BEFORE VIEWS OF MANY INTERESTED GOA DEPARTMENTS COULD
BE OBTAINED. HE ALSO SAID THAT REQUIRED FORMAL EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL APPROVAL MIGHT NOT BE OBTAINED BEFORE FEBRUARY
RECONVENING OF PARLIAMENT. EMBASSY HOPES, HOWEVER, OBTAIN
AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE MENTIONED PARA 7 REFTEL A SOON AFTER
GOA DEPARTMENTAL CONCURRENCE RECEIVED. END COMMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT REQUESTED REVIEW PROPOSED
NOTE FORMAT AND ADVISE ACCORDINGLY. ALSTON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LASERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CANBER08399
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770445-0102
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712106/aaaadlzq.tel
Line Count: 190
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6dfcceb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NASA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 254974, 77 CANBERRA 7199
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 114996
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY NASA LASER TRACKING FACILITY
TAGS: TSPA, AS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6dfcceb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009